

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. to 22            Canceled

23.    (New) A system of programmable headsets comprising:

(a)    a plurality of programmable headsets, wherein each headset comprises:

(i)    a headband; and

(ii)   an electronics housing including:

(1)    a headset infrared light detector arranged to receive infrared light signals, convert the infrared light signals into electric signals and supply the electric signals to an output, the headset infrared light detector being located in a detector portion of the electronics housing;

(2)    a headset signal processing device with an input coupled to the output of the headset infrared light detector for processing the electric signals supplied by the headset infrared light detector;

(3)    a transmitter operably connected to the headset signal processing device; and

(4)    a receiver operably connected to the headset signal processing device; and

(b)    a programming unit comprising:

(i)    a programming unit signal processing device with an output; and

(ii)   a programming unit infrared light emitter operable connected to the output of the programming unit signal processing device;

(iii)   wherein the programming unit signal processing device is configured to output a signal to the programming unit infrared light emitter containing the operation frequency for the transmitter and the receiver for transmission by the programming unit infrared light emitter to the headset infrared light detector.

24. (New) The system of programmable headsets of claim 23,
- (a) wherein the electronics housing of the headset further comprises a headset infrared light emitter operably connected to an output of the headset signal processing unit; and
  - (b) wherein the programming unit further comprises a programming unit infrared light detector arranged to receive infrared light signals, convert the received infrared light signals into electric signals and supply the electric signals to an input of the programming unit signal processing device.
25. (New) The system of programmable headsets of claim 23,
- (a) wherein the detector portion of the electronics housing is located at an end of the electronics housing.
26. (New) The system of programmable headsets of claim 23,
- (a) wherein the programming unit further comprises a cradle for receiving the detector portion of the headset;
  - (b) wherein the programming unit infrared light emitter is positioned within the programming unit for infrared light communication with the headset infrared light detector when the detector portion is positioned in the cradle.
  - (c) wherein the detector portion of the headset and the cradle include at least a window of infrared light transparent material.
27. (New) The headset of claim 23 wherein the headband includes a speaker and a microphone, wherein the headband is operably coupled to the electronics housing by a wire connection.
28. (New) The headset of claim 23 wherein the electronics housing is attached to the headband and the electronics housing includes a speaker and a microphone.
29. (New) The system of claim 23 further comprising a base unit connected to the programming unit, the base unit comprising a control panel.

30. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the programming unit further comprises a control panel.
31. (New) The system of claim 23 wherein the programming unit is wall mountable.
32. (New) A method of programming a headset comprising:  
positioning a detector portion of a headset near a programming station, where the headset comprises a headset infrared light detector for receiving signals from a programming station infrared light emitter, wherein the headset includes a transmitter and receiver;  
transmitting an infrared light signal from the programming station infrared light emitter to the headset infrared detector, where the signal contains information regarding the operating frequency for the transmitter and receiver of the headset;  
setting the operating frequency of the transmitter and receiver of the headset in response to the signal.
33. (New) The method of claim 32 further comprising:  
indicating a ready condition for receiving a programming signal of the headset by transmitting an infrared light signal from a headset infrared detector emitter to a programming station infrared detector.
34. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the step of indicating a ready condition further comprises turning the headset on.
35. (New) A programmable headset comprising:  
(i) a headband; and  
(ii) an electronics housing including:  
(a) a headset infrared light detector arranged to receive infrared light signals, convert the infrared light signals into electric signals and supply the electric signals to an output, the headset infrared light detector being located in a detector portion of the electronics housing;

- (b) a headset signal processing device with an input coupled to the output of the headset infrared light detector for processing the electric signals supplied by the headset infrared light detector;
- (c) a transmitter operably connected to the headset signal processing device;
- and
- (d) a receiver operably connected to the headset signal processing device;
- (e) wherein the operation frequency for the transmitter and receiver of the headset is set by a signal received by the headset infrared light detector.

36. (New) The programmable headset of claim 35,

- (a) wherein the electronics housing of the headset further comprises a headset infrared light emitter operably connected to an output of the headset signal processing unit, wherein the headset infrared light emitter is configured to transmit a ready signal to indicate that the headset is ready to receive the infrared signal indicating the frequency of operation of the transmitter and receiver.

37. (New) The programmable headset of claim 35,

- (a) wherein the detector portion of the electronics housing is located at an end of the electronics housing.

38. (New) The programmable headset of claim 35,

- (b) wherein the detector portion of the headset includes at least a window of infrared light transparent material.

39. (New) The headset of claim 35 wherein the headband includes a speaker and a microphone, wherein the headband is operably coupled to the electronics housing by a wire connection.

40. (New) The headset of claim 35 wherein the electronics housing is attached to the headband and the electronics housing includes a speaker and a microphone.